



Discovery Community School

<http://dcs.ourschoolpages.com/Home>

DCS Steering Meeting Notes

Date: August 28th, 2024, 7pm - 8:30pm

Location: Danya's Back Patio

Presiding: Aditi Jain & Danya Kelberg (Proxy for Jaclyn Senekerimyan)

Minutes: Robin Desilet

Opening: 7:05

Welcome + Announcements - Aditi & Danya

Everyone shared their name, role, and something fun they did this summer.

Principal's Report - Bowser/ Kusunose

- We are very excited for another school year.
- We already have the Gaga ball money from DCS, so treasures do not need to make any additional payments.
- We will be asking for driver's license and insurance cards at the community meeting tomorrow night.
- Please sign up for a family connection meeting. It's a great time to connect with your students teacher and don't hesitate to also reachout outside of that time.
- All Kindergartners will start school together on Friday this year at DCS.
- Due to parent input, Middles and Youngers will have their lunch, lunch recess, and afternoon recess together. Middles and olders will have morning recess together everyday. There is also the all DCS recess on Wednesdays.

Teacher's Report - Subcleff

- Information about Older's Day camp will be provided soon to parents, possibly at the meeting tomorrow. The day camp is Sept. 16 & 17th. Permission slips will be coming home the first or second week of school. We will use the money raised last year for Outdoor Education overnight camp to fund the day camp. There is around \$2,000. Also, PTSA gives \$10 per student per year for Learning Journeys.

- Questions came up about the non-affiliated parent overnight camp and what to do about absences. Parents will need to send into the school that the student will be absent. There will be makeup work for when they return. It will not be sent with the student. The school will be making a choice board for makeup work for any vacations throughout the school year.
- Amber & Kristina have been working really hard on getting their classrooms ready.

Treasurer's Report - Lindal & Puneet

- We need to start having a conversation about raising dues for next year with the community. It will be added to the agenda for the community meeting on October 3rd.
- When an event space needs to be used on weekends, a Building Use Form must be completed. All building use fees are now collected in advance. The cost is mainly for the custodian's time and the cost varies by event. The Treasurer will give a check to those reserving the event space.

Community Building Chair - Annie (not present)

- The Mimosa Toast tradition will continue this year at Amy Dost's house on 9/6 at 8:50 am. A RSVP QR code will be passed out during the community meeting tomorrow.

Volunteer Updates - Katherine

- The following major volunteer roles are still needed:
 - Learning Journey Coordinator for Youngers (1st grade parent) and Middles (4th grade parent).
 - Fundraising Coordinator for Outdoor Ed
 - We need to update the donation request form as now the fundraising will be for a daytime camp, not overnight.
 - Outdoor Rep
 - Volunteer Coordinator
 - Winter Event Coordinator
 - PTSA Art Docent for Olders
 - Moving Up Ceremony and a few others that are typically filled towards the end of the school year.
 - Community Project Lead/Coordinator
 - Ms. O has an art mural idea. Caro volunteered to help.

New Family - Susan & Caro

- There will be a Kinder playdate Thursday (9/5) from around 9 - 11am at Finn Hill Park.
- New family orientation will be September 7th, 11:30-12:30 at the Kingsgate Library. Caro has been updating the slides to add more information about Friday Special, and explaining volunteer roles. She will provide the QR codes at the meeting.

Friday Specials - Kara/Karen/Katya

- Fall Friday specials will be Oct. 25th, Nov 1st, Nov. 8th, and Nov. 15th.
- An all call for volunteers will be sent out the second week of school.
- Karen is going to do the volunteer coordination and Kara/Katya will get the track leaders in place.

IT/Website - Anwar & Jeremiah

- The School pages subscription was to be paid by 8/22/24. Email lists have been updated. A ParentSquare message will be sent out to confirm that all new families and community members have been properly added to the email lists and are receiving the emails.

PTSA - Anh (not present)

- The PTSA fundraiser will be Oct. 10th - October 25th. They are focusing on a 2 week fundraiser that will end at Trunk-or-Treat on Oct. 25th.
- The Fall fair will be Sept. 20th.

Community Meeting - Aditi & Danya

- Outline/Plan: The teachers have planned a skit and then will walk the kids back to the classroom for a 30 minute activity. There is a condensed community meeting while the kids are in the classroom which will include review paying dues, expectations, volunteer time commitments, etc. We will ask people to give their driver's license to be copied during this time to get a jump start on drivers paperwork for Learning Journeys. Also, a QR code will be available so families can complete the food allergy form, submit volunteer hours, sign up for volunteer roles and pay their dues during the meeting. We will give out raffle tickets to encourage families to fill out the forms and pay their dues. We really want to avoid having dues paid late at the end of the year.

- We want to restart the tradition of giving out seeds to new families. Caro believes she may already have some seeds she can use.
- It would be great to get a family photo during the ice cream social or throughout the school year.

Master Checklist - Robin & Phoebe

- We need to make sure insurance is paid and we have a Certificate of Liability Insurance to the district by 9/29. Robin will be working with our insurance contact (Anne) to get our invoice and paperwork signed. Then the treasures will need to pay it as soon as possible so we receive our Certificate of Liability which goes to the district.

Walk-on Topics - Anyone

- A food allergies sign-up genius will be going out tomorrow night during the community meeting. The goal is to have a list of all of our kids' allergies in one place for all events throughout the year.

Adjourned: 8:09 pm

Next Community Meeting: August 29th, 2024 (Ice-Social at Sandburg Commons area)

Next Steering Committee Meeting: October 3th, 2024 (Zoom)